June, 1878.

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In Memoriam.

The funeral services of that widely known and eloquent advocate of the Anti-Slavery cause, from an early period to its close, Mr. Charles C. Burleigh, were held in Cosmian Hall, at Florence, (Mass.) on Sunday afternoon, 16th inst.; the number in attendance being estimated at not less than fifteen hundred persons — a gathering perhaps unprecedented on any similar occasion in all that region. Just a fortnight before, he gave his last public discourse in that hall, which was marked in some of its passages by deep emotion and great tenderness of spirit, as though prophetic of a near leave-taking. The very next day he received a fatal blow from a railroad train as he was endeavoring to cross the track in advance of it, and, after lingering a few days, — thus faintly exciting hope of a possible recovery, — peacefully

passed on to the life beyond, in the 68th year of his age, in the fulness of his strength and in mental vigor unimpaired.

The exercises in the hall were of a highly impressive character, and, though long protracted, held the great assembly in rapt attention to the end. Prayer was offered and an appropriate selection of Scripture read by Rev. Mr. Ferry, Unitarian minister of Northampton, and well-deserved tributes to the character and labors of ~~Mr.~~ the deceased were feelingly bestowed by Rev. Samuel May, of Leicester, Rev. Mr. Cobb, orthodox Congregationalist at Florence, and the writer of this article. Letters expressive of sympathy and high personal appreciation were read from John G. Whittier, Theodore D. Weld, Edward M. Davis, Rev. J. W. Chadwick, and others. Whittier wrote: "He was one of the ablest and most self-sacrificing of the number, now sadly depleted, who compelled a reluctant people to see the sin and danger

of slavery. As a debater, I have rarely seen his equal. He seemed in his best moments to combine the impetuous eloquence of Henry with the severe logic of Calhoun."

How — soon after attaining his majority — the attention of Mr. Burleigh was called to the momentous question of slavery, the late Rev. Samuel J. May has recorded in his "Recollections of the Anti-Slavery Conflict." It was in connection with the enactment of the now infamous "Black Law" of Connecticut, and the almost incredible persecution of Miss Prudence Crandall for admitting to her private school in Canterbury colored as well as white pupils. Mr. Burleigh was then living with his parents in Plainfield, and helping them to carry on their farm, while pursuing as he could his studies preparatory to the profession of a lawyer. Needing his assistance in editing "The Unionist," an anti-slavery journal commenced in Brooklyn

in July, 1833, and leaving him commended as a young man of great promise, Mr. May drove to Plainfield, and found him busily at work in the hay-field, "in his shirt-sleeves, with pants the worse for wear," and otherwise uncouth in appearance. "Nevertheless," says Mr. May, "I do not believe that Samuel of old saw, in the ruddy son of Jesse, as he came up from the sheepfold, the man whom the Lord would have him anoint, more clearly than I saw in Charles C. Burleigh the man whom I should choose to be my assistant in such an emergency." That interview shaped his destiny, and determined his future career. The proposition made to him by Mr. May included the renouncement of all hope of wealth, political preferment, or legal success, (for "he was pronounced the best prepared candidate that had been admitted to the Windham County Bar within the memory of those who were then practising there,)

Father – Jr		Young	Frank –
264	390	422	880
264	260	320	226
274	224	204	322
308	454	274	136
580	242	1232	502
1790	1570	2452	2066

Ellie –
326
542
106
136
314

(Bagatelle score as kept by W. Ls.)

Simpson.
Shaw.
J. B., Jr. + Lupton + Bruce
Ashhurst –
Macfie. Nichol. Hodge
Estlin – (Watson
Thomas)
Newcastle. Shannon –
~~Hamilton~~.

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and the incurring of popular misconception, hatred and opprobrium in all their varied manifestations, for the slave's sake. But his was not a nature to "confer with flesh and blood" as to the line of his duty; neither was it of an impulsive kind that led him to hasty conclusions. Having carefully and conscientiously weighed the whole matter, he commenced, in the spirit of absolute self-sacrifice, his editorial as well as lecturing advocacy of the emancipation of the millions groaning for deliverance; ~~and soon~~ nor did he cease to plead with voice or pen until all yokes and fetters were broken, and equal rights decreed without regard to race or color.

For more than forty years he was almost constantly in the lecturing field, during which period he travelled many thousands of miles, addressed hundreds of thousands of hearers, cheerfully encountering every hardship, serenely confronting mobocratic violence, shrinking from no peril, heedless of unescapa-

for a time
the ridicule (stimulated and intensified
by the non-conformity of the outward man
in the matter of dress, the wearing of the hair
and beard); yet winning such a mastery
of his subject, such powers of argument
and persuasion, such force of intellect
and breadth of mind, such copiousness
of speech and fertility of illustration on
every question discussed, as made it an
easy task for him to conform and vanquish all
opponents. "Indeed he never found a fe-
man worthy of his steel." He was even
invincible in debate, not merely because
of his rare speaking talents, but because
he was even careful to be in the right.
Lifted above all personalities, he had special
regard to fundamental principles
and eternal verities; believing in and in-
sisting on no compromise, building on a
foundation that could not be shaken,
and using only such weapons as are
mighty through God to the pulling down

strongholds."

He never lost his balance. Whenever else, in the heat and conflict of nature, he led into extravagance of speech, or bitterness of invective, or error of reasoning, his self-control was absolute, his presentation of the case singularly dispassionate, his accusations and emphasisments within the truth, his supreme effort not to "bring down the house" but to enlighten and convert it. At the bar, before a jury, he would hardly have found his peers; on the judicial bench he would have been chief.

Yet, with all this admirable self-poise, he was not lacking in high enthusiasm or quick feeling; and he never failed to apprehend what the cause or the occasion demanded, and bore himself accordingly.

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He was a profound thinker, a close investigator, an apt learner, and an excellent teacher. Believing in "proving all things, and holding fast that which is good," he fearlessly sought the truth in every direction, and in its defence stood ready to meet the powers of darkness single-handed, if so it must be. He believed in a religion of deeds, not of words; in fruits, not in professions. As a rational and ~~[illegible]~~ skillful expositor of the Scriptures he had no superior, and no one applied them more thoroughly to the advancement of the cause of righteousness, and the dethronement of superstition and bigotry. Though preaching for several years past to a free religious society in Florence and in Cummington, alternately, he never claimed nor accepted the title of "Rev.", which some of the newspapers affix to his name. He was nobly catholic in religious thought and utterance.

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Since the abolition of slavery, he has specially consecrated his remarkable gifts to the service of the Southern freedmen, to the temperance movement, to the cause of peace, to the advancement of education, and to other kindred objects. He has sown his seed by all waters; he has borne his testimony in highways and byways; he has been instant in season and out of season in sustaining the right, in opposing the wrong; and now, through a sad catastrophe, his earthly labors are ended, let his example prove an inspiration and his worth be long held in grateful remembrance.

Wm. L. Garrison (1)

Boston, June 20, 1878.

(1) Private. — The whole name may be printed, if desired.